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FloorPrep
Legislative Digest

Monday, July 10, 2000

*The House will meet at 12:30 p.m. for Morning Hour
and 2:00 p.m. for Legislative Business
(No votes before 6:00 p.m.)*

Anticipated Floor Action:

**S.Con.Res. 129—Expressing the Sense of Congress on the Importance
of Education**

H.R. 1787—Deschutes Resources Conservancy Reauthorization Act

H.R. 4286—Establishing the Cahaba National River Wildlife Refuge

H.R. 4132—Reauthorization of the Water Resources Research Act of 1984

H.R. 4442—National Wildlife Refuge Systems Centennial Act

**H.Res. 415—Expressing the Sense of the House on Establishing a National
Oceans Day**

**H.Con.Res. 322—Establishing the Sense of the House Regarding People
Working to Improve Political Conditions in Vietnam**

**H.R. 4461—FY 2001 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Ad-
ministration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act**



Bills Under Suspension of the Rules

Floor Situation: The House will consider the following seven bills under suspension of the rules as its first order of business today. Each is debatable for 40 minutes, may not be amended, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

S.Con.Res. 129 expresses the sense of Congress that (1) America's college graduates do not know enough about American history, which should be addressed by the country's higher education community; (2) administrations and governing boards at colleges and universities should review their curricula and add requirements in United States history; (3) state officials responsible for

higher education should review the curricula in their states and promote requirements in United States history; (4) parents should encourage their children to choose colleges and universities with American history requirements and to take courses in United States history regardless of whether requirements exist; and (5) history teachers and educators at all levels should intensify their efforts to reinforce the knowledge of United States history among students of all ages and to restore the vitality of America's civic memory. The bill was introduced by Senator Lieberman on June 30, 2000, passed the Senate by unanimous consent on June 20, 2000, and was not considered by a House Committee.

H.R. 1787 reauthorizes the participation of the Bureau of Reclamation in the Deschutes Resources Conservancy from FY 2002 through FY 2006. It will also increase the annual appropriation authorization from \$1 million to \$2 million each fiscal year. At press time, a CBO cost estimate was not available. The bill was introduced by Mr. Walden on May 12, 2000, and was reported by voice vote from the Resources Committee on June 15, 2000.

H.R. 4286 establishes the Cahaba River National Wildlife Refuge in Bibb County, Alabama. The bill authorizes the appropriation of funds necessary for the Secretary of the Interior to acquire 3,500 acres of land to establish the refuge surrounding the Cahaba River. The refuge will conserve, enhance and restore the native water and land community characteristics of the Cahaba River and assist in the recovery of plants and animals listed under the Endangered Species Act of 1973. H.R. 4286 provides opportunities for hunting, fishing, observation, and photography, while encouraging the use of volunteers to promote public awareness of the Wildlife Refuge. CBO estimates that it will cost \$7 million dollars over three to four years for land acquisition, and \$600,000 annually to operate. Mr. Bachus introduced the bill on April 13, 2000 and it was reported by voice vote from the Resources Committee on June 28, 2000.

H.R. 4132 extends the authorization for state water research institutes from FY 2001 to FY 2005. Total funding for FY 2001-2005 is \$53 million, an increase of \$16 million. It increases authorization for interstate water problem research grants by \$3 million to \$23 million. At press time, a CBO cost estimate was not available. Mr. Doolittle introduced the bill on March 30, 2000, and it was reported from the Resources Committee by voice vote on May 24, 2000.

H.R. 4442 creates a commission to promote awareness of the National Wildlife Refuge System and plan centennial activities, including a national conference on wildlife refuges. This legislation will focus on developing long-term plans to meet priority operations, maintenance and construction needs of the refuge. Finally, the commission would be disbanded by October of 2004. H.R. 4442 was introduced by Mr. Saxton on May 11, 2000, and was unanimously reported by the Committee on Resources on June 20, 2000, and by the Committee on the Interior on June 28, 2000.

H.Res. 415 expresses the sense of the House that a National Ocean Day should be established to recognize the significance of the ocean in the lives of the nation's people, and the important role they must play in the continued life of the ocean. Ms. Mink introduced H.Res. 415 on February 2, 2000 it was reported by voice vote from the Resources Committee on June 20, 2000.

H.Con.Res. 322 commends the Vietnamese American community for its work in bringing democratic principles and practices to the people of Vietnam. It applauds the contributions of all individuals whose efforts focus international attention on human rights violations in Vietnam. This

resolution was introduced by Mr. Davis (VA) on May 11, 2000, and was reported from the International Relations Committee by voice vote on June 29, 2000.



Bills Considered Pursuant to a Rule

H.R. 4461—FY 2001 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act

Floor Situation: The House is scheduled to resume consideration of H.R. 4461 on Monday, July 10, 2000. The Rules Committee met on Wednesday, June 28, 2000 and granted an open rule providing for one hour of general debate, equally divided between the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations. The rule waives House rules that prohibit unauthorized legislative provisions in an appropriations bill, except for those parts of the bill beginning with section 741 until the end of the bill (including the Nethercutt Amendment). The rule provides that the bill shall be considered for amendment by paragraph and accords priority in recognition to members who have their amendments pre-printed in the *Congressional Record*. It permits the Chairman of the Committee of the Whole to postpone votes and reduce the voting time on a postponed vote to five minutes, so long as it follows a regular 15-minute vote. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions and that H.Res. 513 is laid on the table.

At press time, the *Legislative Digest* was aware of the following amendments to H.R. 4461 that have not yet been considered:

Mr. Allen and Mr. Brown may offer an amendment (#24, #32) that requires, upon Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval of a new drug, the disclosure of the taxpayer funded contribution to the total cost of research and development of that drug. **Staff Contact: Beth Beaufang, x5-6116**

Mr. Andrews may offer one or more amendments (#4, #5, #12, #23) that adds a general provision under Title VII of the bill. The provision amends the Housing Act of 1949 requiring the Housing Secretary to guarantee a refinancing loan with a fixed interest rate that does not exceed the previous loan. This refinanced loan must also meet four additional requirements: it must be secured by a single family residence, the principal obligation must not exceed the sum of the loan being refinanced, borrowers can not miss more than two months of repayment, and the term of refinancing must not exceed the original loan by more than ten years. **Staff Contact: Charles Matlew, x5-6501**

Mr. Andrews may offer an amendment (#34) that reduces the total amount provided for the Agriculture Research Service Cotton Research program by \$5 million and increases the Extension Service consumer education program regarding the dangers of flammable children's cotton sleepware by \$5 million. **Staff Contact: Matt Walker 225-6501**

Mr. Brown (OH) may offer an amendment (#37) that adds a general provision to Title IX of the bill that prohibits the use of funds appropriated in the bill from being used to approve any applica-

tion for a new drug submitted by an entity that does not agree to a quarterly disclosure (during the patent life of the drug), of the average price charged by the manufacturer for the most common dosage of the drug (expressed as total revenues divided by the total units sold) in each country that is a member of the OECD. *Contact: x5-3041*

Messrs. Brown (OH) and Waxman and Ms. Slaughter may offer an amendment (#38) that directs the FDA to allocate \$3 million for the Center for Veterinary Medicine from its total funding for FY 2001. *Staff Contact, x5-3401*

Mr. Burton may offer one or more amendments (#50), (#67), (#68) to add a new section to the end of the bill prohibiting any scientist, physician or other individual who is a member, or prospective member, of a federal advisory committee that has responsibilities regarding vaccines from being granted a waiver from the conflict-of-interest rules that apply to such service. *Staff Contact: Beth Clay, x5-5074*

Mr. Capuano may offer an amendment (#13) that will require the president to report to Congress one year after economic sanctions are lifted on a country that the government of that country is not impeding the delivery of food and medicine to its citizens. *Staff Contact: Michelle Mancini x5-5111*

Messrs. Chabot and Deutsch may offer an amendment to strike sec. 741 of the bill, thereby maintaining the current prohibition on taxpayer subsidies for the overseas marketing of luxury mink products through the Market Access Program (MAP), reestablishing the ban Congress passed on MAP funds being used to promote luxury mink products in 1995. *Contact: Brian Griffith or Kyle Wilcox, x5-2216*

Messrs. Chabot, Weiner, Royce, and Bass may offer an amendment to prohibit new allocations under the Market Access Program (MAP). In the legislation, the MAP program is allocated \$90 million. MAP funds are used to subsidize large agricultural conglomerates for the overseas promotion and advertising of their products. *Contact: Brian Griffith or Kyle Wilcox, x5-2216*

Mrs. Clayton may offer an amendment (#31) that provides \$5 million for the National Rural Development Partnership established in the Agriculture Department. *Staff Contact: Susan Kelly, x5-3101*

Mr. Coburn may offers an amendment (#6) that prohibits the development or approval of any drug intended solely for the chemical inducement of an abortion. *Staff Contact: Roland Foster, x5-2701*

Mr. Coburn may offer an amendment (#69) to add a new section at the end of the bill to prohibit funds under the Federal Drug Administration from being used to provide warnings to people that drugs they seek to import into the United States are legally available in the United States. *Staff Contact: Roland Foster, x5-2701*

Mr. Crowley may offer an amendment (#28) that increases funding for the Wildlife Service's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service by \$5 and decreases the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center revolving fund by \$5 million. *Staff Contact: Kevin Casey 5-3965*

Mr. Crowley may offer an amendment (#29, #36) prohibiting the use of funds in this bill from being used to enforce federal restrictions on allowing Americans to travel abroad to purchase their prescription drugs. *Staff Contact: Kevin Casey 5-3965*

Messrs. DeFazio and Bass and Ms. Morella may offer one or more amendments (#7, #26, #39) that cap spending for the Wildlife Service's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service at the administration's request of \$28.6 million. The amendment also prohibits federal expenditures for the killing of animals such as coyotes, mountain lions, and foxes when they threaten livestock. The amendment does allow the Wildlife Service to continue non-lethal livestock predator control while not inhibiting private or state funded predator control.

Mr. DeFazio may offer one or more amendments (#19, #40) that cap spending for the Wildlife Service's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service at \$35.6 million. The amendment also prohibits federal expenditures for the killing of animals such as coyotes, mountain lions, and foxes when they threaten livestock. The amendment does allow the Wildlife Service to continue non-lethal livestock predator control while not inhibiting private or state funded predator control. *Contact: x5-6416*

Mr. Gilman may offer an amendment (#70) that earmarks \$15 million of Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) funds to be used to compensate producers of onions who suffered losses in 1999 and are located in counties designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as disaster areas for drought. *Contact: x5-3776*

Mr. Goodling may offer an amendment (#16) that expands the quality loss payments for apples and potatoes to plums affected by the plum pox virus. The Agriculture Secretary listed the plum pox virus in Adams County, Pennsylvania as an "extraordinary emergency" on March 2nd, 2000. The Adams County outbreak is the first discovery of the disease on the North American continent. *Staff Contact: Ron Englebert, x5-5836*

Mr. Gutknecht may offer an amendment (#27) prohibiting the use of funds in this bill from being used to enforce federal restrictions on allowing Americans to travel abroad to purchase their prescription drugs. *Contact: x5-2472*

Mr. Hayes may offer one or more amendments that strike a provision in Title I – Agricultural Programs – of the bill that prohibits funds in the bill from being used to carry out research related to the production, processing, or marketing of tobacco or tobacco products. *Staff Contact: Tim Peters, x5-3715*

Mr. Hayes may offer an amendment (#71) that adds an administrative provision to Title I – Agricultural Programs – of the bill specifying that any limitation on funds to carry out research related to the production, processing, or marketing tobacco or tobacco products will not apply to research on the medical, biotechnological, food, drug and industrial uses of tobacco products. *Staff Contact: Tim Peters, x5-3715*

Mr. Hinchey may offer an amendment to make technical corrections page 72 line 18. Included in the general provisions was a waiver allowing the village of Harris to apply for loans and grants

under the Rural Community Advancement Program. The amendment would replace Harris, NY with Thompson, NY. *Staff Contact: Diane Miller, x5-6335*

Ms. Jackson-Lee and Mrs. Clayton may offer an amendment that adds \$4 million to the Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Account and provided additional \$2.8 million for colleges receiving benefits under the Second Merrill Act and offset these increases by reducing funds for the Agriculture Research Service. *Contact: x5-3101*

Ms. Kaptur may offer an amendment (#15) that adds a general provision to Title VII of the bill allowing the Secretary, upon declaring an emergency, to provide up to \$80 million of the funds appropriated for the Commodity Credit Corporation for use in assisting negatively impacted small and medium sized farmers, farm cooperatives and farm enterprises. *Staff Contact: Roger Szemraj x5-4146*

Ms. Kaptur may offer an amendment (#72) urging the Secretary of Agriculture to use ethanol, biodiesel, and other alternative fuels to maximum extent practicable to meet USDA's fuel needs. *Staff Contact: Roger Szemraj x5-4146*

Mr. Knollenberg will offer an amendment (#41) that will add a provision to Section 734 stating that "the limitations established in this section shall not apply to any activity otherwise authorized by law." This will make section 734 of the bill identical to corresponding language passed by the House in the FY 2001 Energy and Water Appropriations Act. *Staff Contact: Aloysius Hogan, x5-5802*

Messrs. Kucinich, Metcalf and Sanders may offer an amendment (#9) that would include H.R. 3377, The Genetically Engineered Food Right To Know Act, in the Agricultural appropriations bill. H.R. 3377 requires all genetically engineered food to have a "neutral label" that states the food product was genetically engineered. *Staff Contact: Auke Piersma, x5-5871*

Ms. Lowey may offer an amendment to provide \$8.6 million for research to determine the source of the recent decline in the lobster population off the Long Island Sound. Additionally, the amendment provides \$19 million to provide relief to lobster fishermen in New York and Connecticut. *Staff Contact: Chris Kukla, x5-6506*

Mr. Metcalf may offer an amendment (#73) to transfer \$40,000 from the USDA Departmental Administration account to the Food and Drug Administration Salaries and Expenses account. *Contact: x5-2605*

Messrs. Miller (FL) and Miller (CA) may offer an amendment (#44) that would reduce funding for USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation by \$54 million, the amount of taxpayer dollars which the CCC has spent on sugar purchases so far this year. The amendment would then redistribute the offset \$54 million to increase other USDA priority accounts as follows: Increase funding for "Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)" by \$2 million; increase funding for the "Natural Resource Conservation Service" account by \$5 million; increase funding for "Watershed and Flood Prevention Operations" by \$3.5 million; increase funding for "Rural Community Advancement Programs (RCAP)" by \$5 million; increase funding for "Rural Community Development Programs" by \$5 million; increase funding for "Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)" by \$1 million; increase funding for "Child Nutrition Programs" by \$5 mil-

lion; increase funding for “Food Stamp Program” by \$15 million. *Staff Contact: Thad Bingel, x5-5015*

Messrs. Miller (FL), Chabot and Royce may offer an amendment (#46) that prevents any of the funds appropriated in the bill from being used by USDA to administer the issuance of nonrecourse loans to sugar producers, a key component of the domestic sugar program. *Staff Contact: Thad Bingel, x5-5015.*

Mr. Miller (FL) may offer an amendment (#47) that prevents any of the funds appropriated in the bill from being used by USDA to store, maintain, market, transport, donate, or otherwise dispose of the over 130,000 tons of sugar which USDA purchased through the Commodity Credit Corporation for \$54 million this year in an effort to effect domestic sugar prices. *Staff Contact: Thad Bingel, x5-5015.*

Ms. Morella and Messrs. DeFazio and Bass may offer an amendment that prevents the Wildlife Services Program (WS) from using funds to carry out predator control. The Wildlife Services Program currently uses predator control in order to protect the Nation’s livestock from wild animals. *Staff Contact: Amelia Jenkins: x5-6416*

Mr. Pallone may offer an amendment (#20) striking the section of the bill that requires any costs incurred from future Salmonella contamination testing regulations be defrayed. *Staff Contact: Ladeen Friemuth x5-4671*

Mr. Reyes may offer an amendment (#62) to strike the provision in the bill that prohibits funding in the bill or any other bill from being available to carry out a Colonias initiative (“Colonias” is the term for severely impoverished United States communities along the Southwest United States Border with Mexico, which a lack of water, sewage, power, roads, housing, and other basic infrastructure) - to improve the living standards of colonias and coordinate the outreach of benefits and services to colonias - without the prior approval of the Committee on Appropriations. *Contact: x5-4831*

Mr. Royce may offer one or more amendments (#11, #47) that reduce the total FY 2001 Agriculture Appropriations bill funding by 1 percent. *Staff Contact: Edward Burrier, x5-4111*

Mr. Sanford may offer an amendment (#33) that prohibits the use of funds in the bill for carrying out the non-needs based school breakfast pilot program, established as a part of the William F. Goodling Child Nutrition Reauthorization Act of 1998. *Staff Contact: Jim McGuire, x5-3176*

Mr. Sanford may offer an amendment (#48) that eliminates payments to wool and mohair farmers for wool to make military uniforms. This year, there is \$10 million in the recently passed crop insurance bill for wool production payments. This amendment seeks to keep that \$10 million from being used for that purpose. *Staff Contact: Jim McGuire, x5-3176*

Mr. Sherman may offer an amendment (#64) that would insert a new section at the end of the bill that prohibits any funds from being used to allow the importation into the United States any agricultural or fishery product that is grown or manufactured in the Islamic Republic of Iran. *Contact: x5-5911*

Ms. Stabenow and Mr. Stupak may offer an amendment that uses \$7.5 million from Community Credit Corporation funds to eradicate bovine tuberculosis. **Contact: x5-4872**

Mr. Visclosky may offer an amendment (#74) to replace section 734 with a new section that prohibits the use of funds for the issuance of rules, regulations, decrees or orders for the purpose of implementation of the Kyoto Protocol that have not been ratified by the United States Senate. **Contact: x5-2461**

Additional Information: See *Legislative Digest* Vol. XXIX, #19, July 7, 2000



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Eric Hultman: *Managing Editor*

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